

## Environmental Resources Section

### **WEST VIRGINIA MAKE IT SHINE COMMUNITY AWARD**

To become a West Virginia Make It Shine Community, the applicants are judged in several different categories and must meet a minimum score. All applicants are required to participate in the areas of Cleanup Sponsorship, Adopt-A-Highway, Recycling, and Youth Conservation. Additional points are awarded for optional activities such as Illegal Dump Cleanup, Public Lands Improvement, Community Environmental Education, Stream Cleanup, Beautification, Earth Day, and Mountaineer Pride Curricula. West Virginia Make It Shine Community Award winners receive an invitation and scholarship to attend the Governor's Conference, a West Virginia Make It Shine Certificate of Appreciation signed by the governor and two highway signs designating them as a West Virginia Make It Shine Community. The following communities were this year's recipients of the West Virginia Make It Shine Community Awards.

- Cowen
- Grafton

### **ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES ENVIRONMENTAL TEACHER AWARDS**

Each year the WV Make It Shine Program presents these awards to three teachers, one each at the elementary, middle school/junior high and high school levels, who have developed successful programs in their classes or schools to promote environmental education. These awards are also presented at the Governor's Conference on Environmental Education and Litter Control. The winners for the year 2002 were:

- Ms. Kathy White (Webster Springs Elementary, Webster County)
- Mr. Glenn Righman (Philippi Middle School, Barbour County)
- Mr. Mike Surbaugh (Webster County High School, Webster County)

### **PROMOTIONAL/EDUCATIONAL ITEMS**

A variety of educational and promotional items have been developed to educate West Virginians citizens about the

West Virginia Make It Shine program and the environmental problems facing our state. Pens, pencils, lapel pins, hats, and litter bags have been distributed throughout the state. The West Virginia Make It Shine Activity Book for Young Mountaineers, containing state facts as well as educational activities and information pertaining to environmental issues, is sent out regularly to schools across the state.

### **WV MAKE IT SHINE SHINING SCHOOL AWARD**

This award serves to recognize West Virginia schools that promote environmental education and stewardship and have developed environmental programs in which their students participate. Recognized schools must be active in recycling, beautification and litter removal projects. The long-term goal of this project is to entice schools in the state that have not already done so to stress environmental education and conservation and to involve more school groups in the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Youth Environmental Program. The 2003 winners of the Shining School Award were:

- Fayetteville Middle School, Fayette County
- Mountainview Elementary School, Monongalia County
- Park Junior High School, Raleigh County
- Ralph R. Willis Vo-Tech School, Logan County

### **WEST VIRGINIA MAKE IT SHINE STATEWIDE CLEANUP**

During the first two weeks of April, volunteer groups across the state participated in the West Virginia Make It



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Shine Statewide Cleanup. The cleanups are coordinated by the West Virginia Make It Shine program in conjunction with the Division of Highways and the Department of Environmental Protection. The 2003 cleanup involved 133 communities across the state. In the process of picking up 385,035 pounds of litter, WV Make It Shine volunteers cleaned 275 miles of road, 117 miles of stream, and 547 acres of parks and planted 667 trees.

This year there were 77 cleanups in 39 counties. Participation in this year's cleanup was very good, some 2,048 volunteers statewide. The West Virginia Make It Shine Statewide Cleanup was responsible for the removal of 385,035 pounds of litter, 1,204 appliances, 232,011 pounds of scrap metal, 2,894 pounds of aluminum and 1,855 tires from West Virginia's roadsides and streams. A breakdown of the cleanup results by DNR district is as follows:

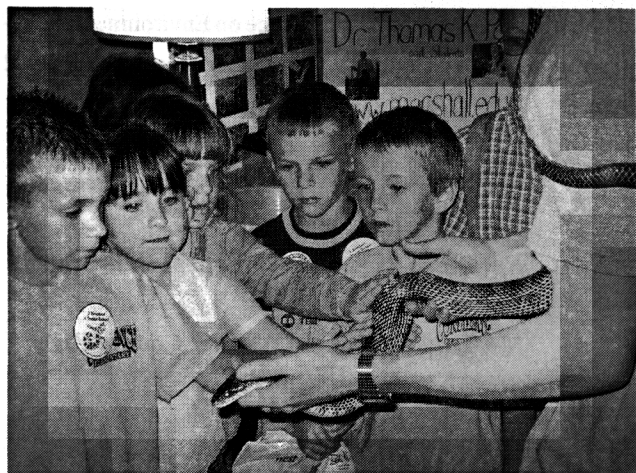
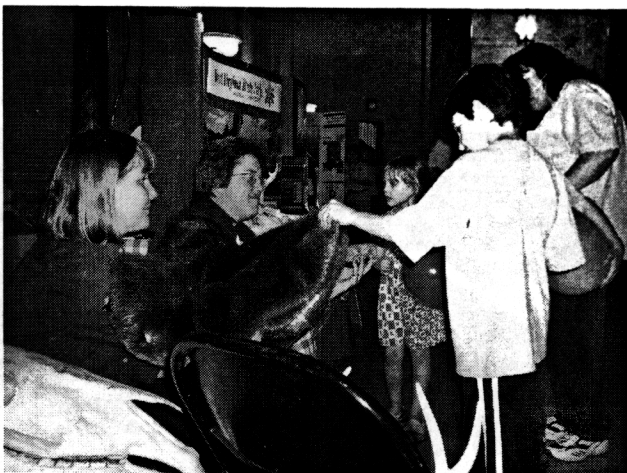
**Table 1 . WVMIS 2003 Statewide Cleanup Totals by DNR District**

<b>DNR District</b>	<b>Volunteers</b>	<b>Hours Worked</b>	<b>Amount Collected (lbs.)</b>	<b>Appliances</b>	<b>Scrap Metal (lbs.)</b>	<b>Aluminum Recycled (lbs.)</b>	<b>Tires</b>
1	712	2,804	82,025	46	90	20	892
2	112	404	16,010	32	540	40	176
3	268	990	5,220	0	0	10	74
4	323	1,541	74,113	109	3,900	250	348
5	393	2,040	117,295	15	27,460	20	253
6	240	958	90,372	1,002	200,021	2,554	112
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,048</b>	<b>8,737</b>	<b>385,035</b>	<b>1,204</b>	<b>232,011</b>	<b>2,894</b>	<b>1,855</b>

### EARTH DAY

Each year, the West Virginia Make It Shine program sponsors Earth Day at the Capitol. Students from all over the state come to the Capitol Complex to participate in an

environmental fair consisting of educational exhibits and activities. This year, approximately 500 students from four different schools were in attendance. Thirty exhibitors from both the public and private sectors were on hand.



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### OHIO RIVER SWEEP

West Virginia was a participant for the fifteenth consecutive year in the six-state Ohio River Sweep, the largest cleanup of its kind in the United States. Held on the third Saturday in June each year, the Ohio River Sweep seeks to rid the Ohio of trash and debris.

This year's Sweep was scheduled to take place June 21. Cleanup sites had been designated in each of the 12 WV counties bordering the river as well as an Ohio River tributary in Marion County. Heavy rains and high water the week prior to the Sweep forced many sites to reschedule their cleanup date or cancel cleanup activities all together. The 1,010 volunteers at those West Virginia sites that did conduct a cleanup removed 17,540 pounds of litter and 58 tires from the Ohio River and its banks.

The West Virginia Make It Shine program helped to coordinate Ohio River Sweep press conferences in Moundsville, Parkersburg and Huntington. Representatives from local television stations attended and the WVDNR Law Enforcement Section had patrol boats on hand to provide news crews with boat tours of cleanup sites. In addition to the press conferences, news releases were sent out to all local news publications prior to the Sweep. A breakdown of the 2003 Ohio River Sweep by county follows. Counties which have cancelled this year's Sweep or have failed to report a cleanup show zero in each column:

Table 2. 2003 Ohio River Sweep Results

County	Volunteers	Amount Collected (Lbs.)	Tires
Brooke	65	1,500	2
Cabell	0	0	0
Hancock	0	0	0
Harrison	0	0	0
Jackson	0	0	0
Marion	18	2,000	22
Marshall	260	4,200	30
Mason	0	0	0
Ohio	0	0	0
Pleasants	43	1,500	0
Tyler	35	1,530	4
Wayne	0	0	0
Wetzel	89	2,700	0
Wood	119	4,110	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>17,540</b>	<b>58</b>

### GREAT KANAWHA RIVER CLEANUP

The Great Kanawha River Cleanup (GKRCU) is a major cleanup effort centered on the Kanawha River. The cleanup is co-sponsored by the WV Division of Natural Resources, the WV Department of Environmental Protection, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, AEP, Toyota Corporation, Princess Beverly Coal Company and many other businesses and municipalities along the river.

The cleanup is coordinated by the West Virginia Make It Shine program. It is promoted by a news conference held jointly by the West Virginia Make It Shine program and the GKRCU Committee. This year's press conference was held at Daniel Boone Park in Charleston. All local news stations and several newspapers and radio stations covered the event.



The 2003 Great Kanawha River Cleanup will be held on September 13th. The cleanup results for the 2003 GKRCU will appear in the 2003/2004 annual report. The 2002 Great Kanawha River Cleanup took place in Kanawha, Putnam and Mason counties only. In 2002, 103 volunteers removed 12,160 pounds of debris and 4 tires from the Kanawha River. County-by-county results from the 2002 Great Kanawha River cleanup can be found in the following table.

### COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Table 3. 2002 Great Kanawha River Cleanup Results

County	Number of Volunteers	Amount Collected (lbs.)	Tires Collected
Kanawha	87	9,960	0
Mason	10	1,000	0
Putnam	6	1,200	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>12,160</b>	<b>4</b>



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In addition to the above mentioned activities, the West Virginia Make It Shine program coordinator sits on several committees that deal with environmental issues. Each committee is listed and described below.

### Lower Paint Creek Restoration Team

A multi-agency committee was formed in 1999 with its mission being a shared commitment to restore, enhance and protect the ecological integrity of the Paint Creek Watershed, focusing on natural resources, recreation, local economy and public interest. Members include the WV Division of Natural Resources, the WV Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Transportation, the WV Soil Conservation Agency, Canaan Valley Institute, and the Upper and Lower Paint Creek Watershed Associations.



The West Virginia Make It Shine program accepted a seat on this committee in 2000. This committee is a group of federal, state and local agencies which have teamed with the public to develop a public awareness program which will promote reduction of solid waste in and along the waterways of the New River Watershed. Members include the National Park Service, The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the WV Division of Natural Resources, the WV Department of Environmental Protection, local solid waste authorities, public interest groups, and the white water industry.

### Stream Partners Committee

Organized by the West Virginia Stream Partners program, this committee oversees the selection of watershed groups in the state for grants and public recognition. Members include the WV Department of Environmental Protection, the WV Divisions of Natural Resources and Forestry, and the WV Soil Conservation Agency.

### Great Kanawha River Cleanup Committee

The committee is responsible for the yearly planning and coordination of the Great Kanawha River Cleanup.



### West Virginia Watershed Network

An informal association of state and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations and volunteer watershed associations with the goal of providing technical resources to volunteers who are working to restore and protect West Virginia's rivers and streams.

### GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

The West Virginia Make It Shine program continues to seek new and innovative methods to aid volunteer, community and watershed groups in removing litter from West Virginia's streams, rivers and public lands on a regular basis. A statewide Litter Violation Hotline is currently being developed to aid in the reporting of littering and dumping violations. The database being developed in conjunction with this hotline will allow the WV Make It Shine program to identify problem areas throughout the state so that we can channel resources into those areas.

